

MARVEL
COMICS

ANNUAL



GAMBIT

WWW.MARVEL.COM

WILL ARCHANGEL
BE HIS SAVIOR OR
EXECUTIONER?!

GUEST-STARRING
THE
X-MEN

2000

NICEZA • SMITH • DERENICK

@all binaries pictures comics

ASSASSINATION GAME

EPILOGUE



ENDGAME!

GAMBIT

REMY LEBAU HAS ALWAYS BEEN THE OUTSIDER. ORPHANED AT BIRTH, HE WAS ADOPTED BY THE LEGENDARY THIEVES GUILD OF NEW ORLEANS WHO OFTEN SHUNNED HIM BECAUSE OF HIS STRANGE BURNING EYES. EVENTUALLY, HE REALIZED HE IS A MUTANT -- GIFTED AT BIRTH WITH THE ABILITY TO CHARGE INANIMATE OBJECTS WITH BIOKINETIC ENERGY THAT IS EXPLOSIVELY RELEASED! HE'S CHARMING. HE'S DEADLY. STAN LEE PRESENTS: THE MOST MYSTERIOUS X-MAN OF ALL!

FABIAN NICIEZA & CAM SMITH story & art
THOMAS DERENCIK pencils pp2-9
ERIC CANNON inks pp2-9
RS/COMICRAFT, TP letters

TOM SMITH colors MIKE MARTS editor BOB HARRAS editor in chief

GAMBIT® 2000 Published by MARVEL COMICS, a division of MARVEL ENTERPRISES, INC. Bill Jemas, President; Bob Harras, Editor-in-Chief; Stan Lee, Chairman Emeritus. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10018. Published annually. Copyright © 2000 Marvel Characters, Inc. All rights reserved. Price \$3.50 per copy in the U.S. and \$5.25 in Canada. GST #R127032852. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the condition that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. GAMBIT (including all prominent characters featured in this issue and the distinctive likenesses thereof) is a trademark of MARVEL CHARACTERS, INC. Printed in the U.S.A. MARVEL COMICS is a division of MARVEL ENTERPRISES, INC. Peter Cuneo, Chief Executive Officer; Avi Arad, Chief Creative Officer.



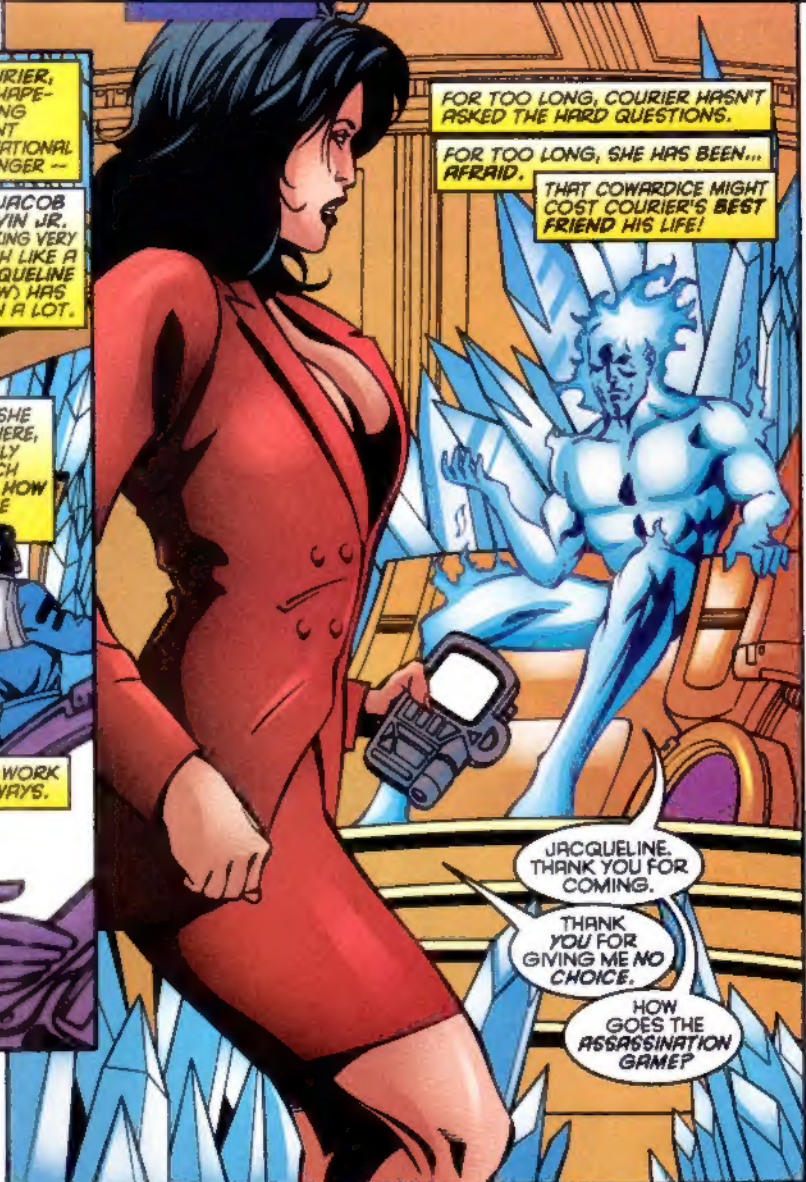
S COURIER,
THE SHAPE-
SHIFTING
MUTANT
INTERNATIONAL
MESSENGER --

-- JACOB
GAVIN JR.
(LOOKING VERY
MUCH LIKE A
JACQUELINE
NOW) HAS
SEEN A LOT.

BUT EVERY TIME SHE
(HE) IS BROUGHT HERE,
SHE IS MOMENTARILY
SPEECHLESS (WHICH
SHOWS YOU JUST HOW
AMAZING A PLACE
THIS IS!)

IT IS THE CRYSTAL
CATHEDRAL, HOME
TO THE ENIGMATIC
WORLD-SCULPTOR
KNOWN ONLY AS
THE NEW SON.

HIS SHADOWTECHS WORK
THEIR MYSTERIOUS WAYS.



FOR TOO LONG, COURIER HASN'T
ASKED THE HARD QUESTIONS.

FOR TOO LONG, SHE HAS BEEN...
AFRAID.

THAT COWARDICE MIGHT
COST COURIER'S BEST
FRIEND HIS LIFE!

JACQUELINE.
THANK YOU FOR
COMING.

THANK
YOU FOR
GIVING ME NO
CHOICE.

HOW
GOES THE
ASSASSINATION
GAME?



REMY
LIBEAU SURVIVED...
JUST LIKE YOU
INTENDED, BUT
TO DO SO --

-- HE
NEEDED TO PUSH
HIS RECENTLY
RESTORED --
AND ARTIFICIALLY
INCREASED --
POWER LEVELS TO
A MUCH HIGHER
DEGREE...



... JUST LIKE YOU
INTENDED.
BUT IT GOT
A BIT...
COMPLICATED.


I SEE.
BULLSEYE
NAILED HIM
WITH A BLADE
TO THE HEART.



REMY THEN USED HIS MUTANT
POWERS TO KINETICALLY
CHARGE THE KNIFE'S
ATOMIC STRUCTURE AS
IT SLID INTO HIM --

-- TURNING
IT INTO THE SAME
FISSION ARC THAT
NOW PERMEATES HIS
INTERNAL SYSTEMS.


IT WAS
PAINFUL TO
HIS NATURAL
BIORHYTHMS,
BUT THE BLADE
DIDN'T ACTUALLY
CUT ANYTHING.



"I WAS REALLY TALKING ABOUT OTHER THINGS -- OTHER PLAYERS GOT INVOLVED."

"A MUTANT HUNTER NAMED X-CUTIONER AND HIS CRONY -- uh... FIREBALLS... SHOWED UP, I NEVER CONTACTED THEM."

"OH... DIDN'T I TELL YOU? I BROUGHT THEM INTO THE GAME."




"WELL, THAT'S ABOUT PAR FOR YOUR COMMUNICATION SKILLS, ISN'T IT?"

"JACOB, I SENSE A GROWING... PETULANCE ON YOUR PART. I DON'T LIKE IT."

"WELL, THAT MAKES TWO OF US. ANYWAY, REMY FOUGHT OFF ALL COMERS."

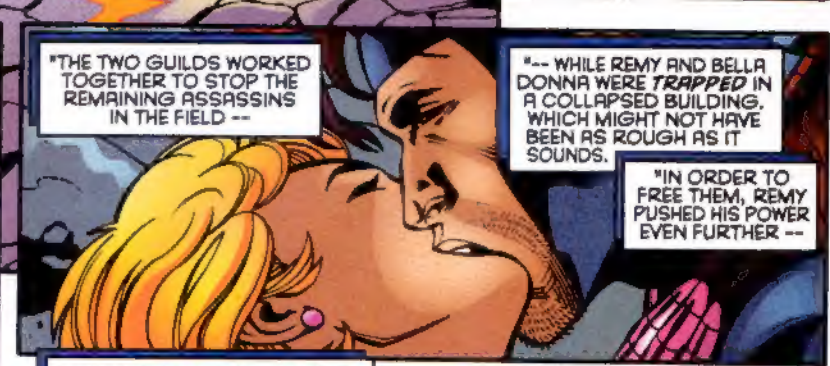
"THE ASSASSINS WE HIRED -- THAT I KNEW ABOUT -- BULLSEYE, CONSTRUCTOR, ZARAN, BATROC AND CROSSBONES --"

"-- ALL TOOK TURNS ON GAMBIT."



"THEY MIGHT HAVE EVEN SUCCEEDED, SINCE REMY WAS DISORIENTED AND EXHAUSTED FROM HAVING HIS POWERS PUSHED TO THE LIMIT --"

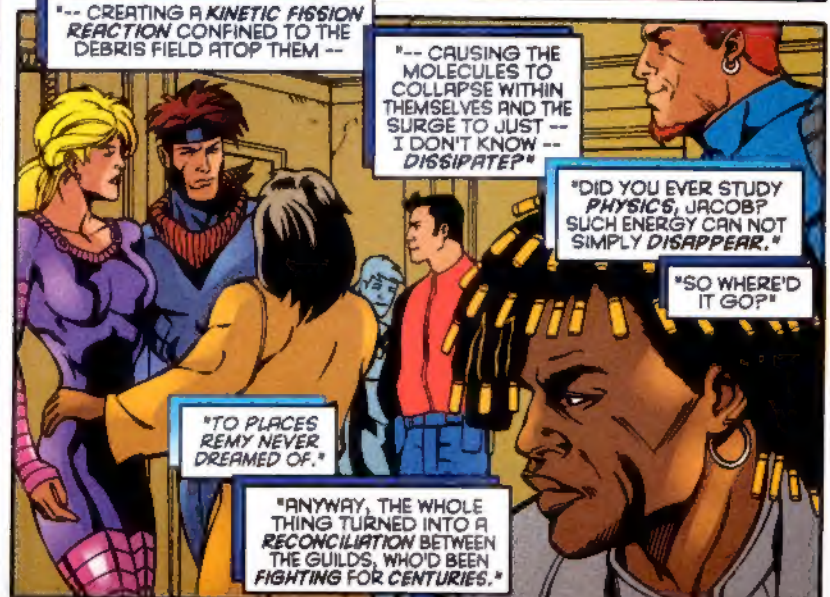
"THE TWO GUILDS WORKED TOGETHER TO STOP THE REMAINING ASSASSINS IN THE FIELD --"



"-- WHILE REMY AND BELLA DONNA WERE TRAPPED IN A COLLAPSED BUILDING, WHICH MIGHT NOT HAVE BEEN AS ROUGH AS IT SOUNDS."

"IN ORDER TO FREE THEM, REMY PUSHED HIS POWER EVEN FURTHER --"

"-- CREATING A KINETIC FISSION REACTION CONFINED TO THE DEBRIS FIELD ATOP THEM --"



"-- CAUSING THE MOLECULES TO COLLAPSE WITHIN THEMSELVES AND THE SURGE TO JUST -- I DON'T KNOW -- DISSIPATE?"

"DID YOU EVER STUDY PHYSICS, JACOB? SUCH ENERGY CAN NOT SIMPLY DISAPPEAR."

"SO WHERE'D IT GO?"

"-- IF IT WEREN'T FOR THE INTERVENTION OF THE ASSASSIN'S GUILD OF NEW ORLEANS --"

"-- THE NATURAL RIVALS TO LeBEAU'S THIEVES GUILD. APPARENTLY, THEY HAD AN INDEPENDENT CONTRACT ON REMY."

"AND HIS EX-WIFE, BELLA DONNA BOUDREAUX, WAS LEADING THE CHARGE TO FULFILL THE CONTRACT!"

"TO PLACES REMY NEVER DREAMED OF."

"ANYWAY, THE WHOLE THING TURNED INTO A RECONCILIATION BETWEEN THE GUILDS, WHO'D BEEN FIGHTING FOR CENTURIES."



AT
SUNRISE, OUR
CONTRACT
EXPIRED, THE
GAME WAS DONE,
AND THEY ALL
LIVED HAPPILY
EVER AFTER.

YET WE
STILL HAD
ONE OPERATIVE
LEFT IN THE
FIELD...

YEAH,
BUT HE'S
JUST THERE
TO PUSH
REMY EVEN
FURTHER,
RIGHT?

AND IS HE
FULFILLING THOSE
OBLIGATIONS?



"EVEN AS WE
SPEAK..."

JUS' WHEN I THOUGHT
THIS NIGHT COULDN'
GET ANY WORSE...

... I'M STUCK IN A
BAD REPEAT OF
"TOUCHED BY
AN ANGEL!"

WARREN WORTHINGTON III --
ARCHANGEL -- IS AN ORIGINAL
STUDEN' OF CHARLES XAVIER'S
SCHOOL FOR GIFTED YOUNGSTERS.

A FOUNDIN' MEMBER
OF TH' OUTLAW BAND
OF MUTANTS I'M A
PART OF, TH' X-MEN.

A MAN WHO'S HELD
A LONG-SIMMERIN'
GRUDGE AGAINST ME.

GO FIGURE, ME HAVIN'
SECRETLY BEEN PART OF
TH' WORST NIGHT OF
HIS LIFE --

-- WHEN HE WAS PHYSICALLY
TRAUMATIZED BY A GROUP
OF MUTANT-STALKERS,
TH' MARAUDERS --

-- IN TH' MORLOCK
TUNNELS UNDER
MANHATTAN!

AN' EVEN THOUGH I DIDN'
KNOW WHAT THEY HAD
PLANNED TO DO, I LED
THE MARAUDERS INTO
THOSE TUNNELS.

WARREN LOST HIS WINGS,
THEN WAS SAVED -- AN'
DAMNED -- BY APOCALYPSE.

HE ENDURED A LONG CYCLE OF
PAIN, SELF-DOUBT AND ANGER
(HEY, JOIN TH' CLUB) THAT HE'S
ONLY NOW (FINALLY) BEGINNIN'
TO RISE ABOVE.

APPARENTLY, NEW SON DECIDED
MY DEATH WOULD BE TH' CHERRY
ATOP TH' SUNDAE OF THAT
PARTICULAR CYCLE OF RENEWAL!



OH, SO TONIGHT WE'RE TH' GRIM, MOODY, "MY LIPS ARE SEALED 'CAUSE I'M ALWAYS SUCKING ON LIFE'S BITTER LEMONS" ARCHANGEL?

Y'KNOW, I'VE HAD A PRETTY GOOD NIGHT OF IT --

-- AN' WHAT DOES THAT SAY 'BOUT ME, CONSIDERIN' I SPENT MOST OF IT WIT' PEOPLE TRYIN' T' KILL ME --

-- AN' I'D RATHER IT NOT BE RUINED BY YOUR OPRAH-MOMENT!



OKAY.

AAAAH!

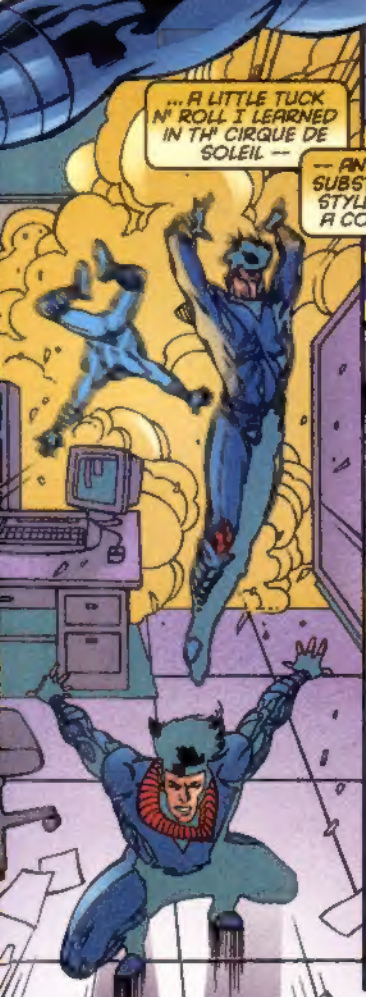
THAT WAS TH' KINDA NASTY THING I'D DO T' SOMEONE!



NO PROB. TWIST AN' ANGLE MYSELF --

-- KINETICALLY CHARGE TH' WINDOW --

SLASS! WACHOOM!



... A LITTLE TUCK N' ROLL I LEARNED IN TH' CIRQUE DE SOLEIL --

-- AN' VOILA -- SUBSTANCE AN' STYLE -- WHAT A COMBINA --



OOOMPH!

IT'S SO EASY TO TAKE BIRDIE FOR GRANTED -- BEIN' HOW HE'S A SILVER SPOON WHINER AN' ALL -- BUT MAARRRN, IS HE FAST!



OUCH. SO HERE I AM,
POWERS INCREASED T'
TH' POINT WHERE I COULD
BLOW UP ANYTHIN' JUST
BY THINKIN' 'BOUT IT --

- AND TH' ONE
THING I CAN'T
DO, OLD POWERS
OR NEW --

-- 16
FLY --

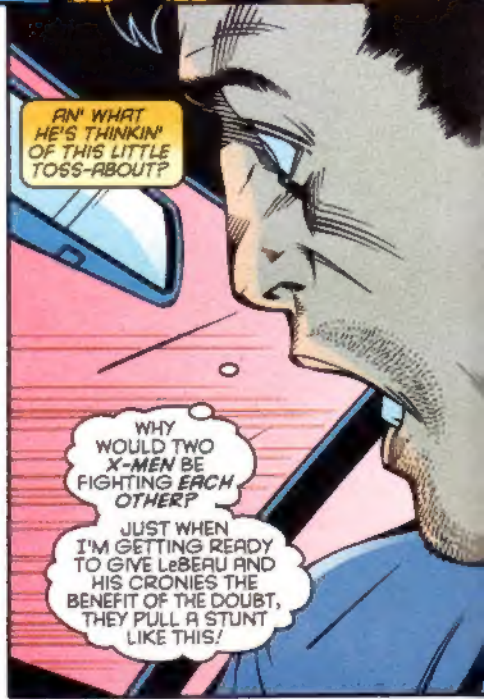
Hmm. NICE VIEW,
THOUGH. NEWS
CHOPPER COMIN'.



WARREN'S LEADIN'
TH' NYPD ON A
MERRY CHASE.

WONDER IF FEDERAL
AGENT CARL DENTI --
WHO SAVED MY BUTT
FROM GETTIN' ARRESTED
AT TH' BUILDIN' COLLAPSE --
IS DOWN THERE NOW?

THE MAN WHO WAS FORMERLY
X-CUTTOWER. -- MIKE



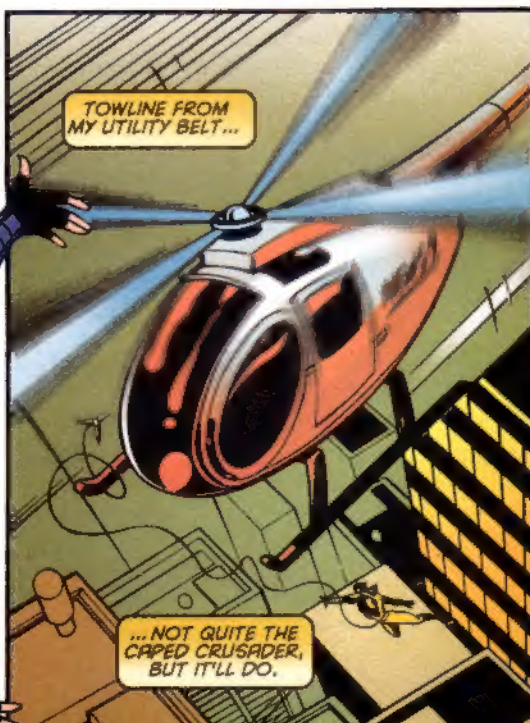
AN' WHAT
HE'S THINKIN'
OF THIS LITTLE
TOSS-ABOUT?

WHY
WOULD TWO
X-MEN BE
FIGHTING EACH
OTHER?

JUST WHEN
I'M GETTING READY
TO GIVE LeBEAU AND
HIS CRONIES THE
BENEFIT OF THE DOUBT,
THEY PULL A STUNT
LIKE THIS!



OKAY, JUS' HADDA
WAIT FOR TH'
CHOPPER T' GET
CLOSE ENOUGH...



TOWLINE FROM
MY UTILITY BELT...

... NOT QUITE THE
CAPED CRUSADER,
BUT IT'LL DO.



ONE OF THEM GRABBED ON TO OUR COPTER!

I KNOW, I KNOW -- I'M GETTING IT ALL!

PLEASE TELL ME WE'RE FEEDING LIVE ON THE MORNING NEWS...



ACHT... WELL, THIS IS CERTAINLY NOT A GOOD THING.

WHAT DO BOTH OF THOSE IDIOTS THINK THEY'RE DOING?



"OFFHAND, KATZCHEN, I'D SAY THEY THINK THEY'RE KICKING THE SNOT OUT OF EACH OTHER!"

"I'LL PREP THE 'BIRD. WE CAN BE THERE IN THREE MINUTES."

THIS COULD GO ON ALL DAY. OOH, SEE THERE I COULD'A GOTTEN A GOOD SHOT IN.



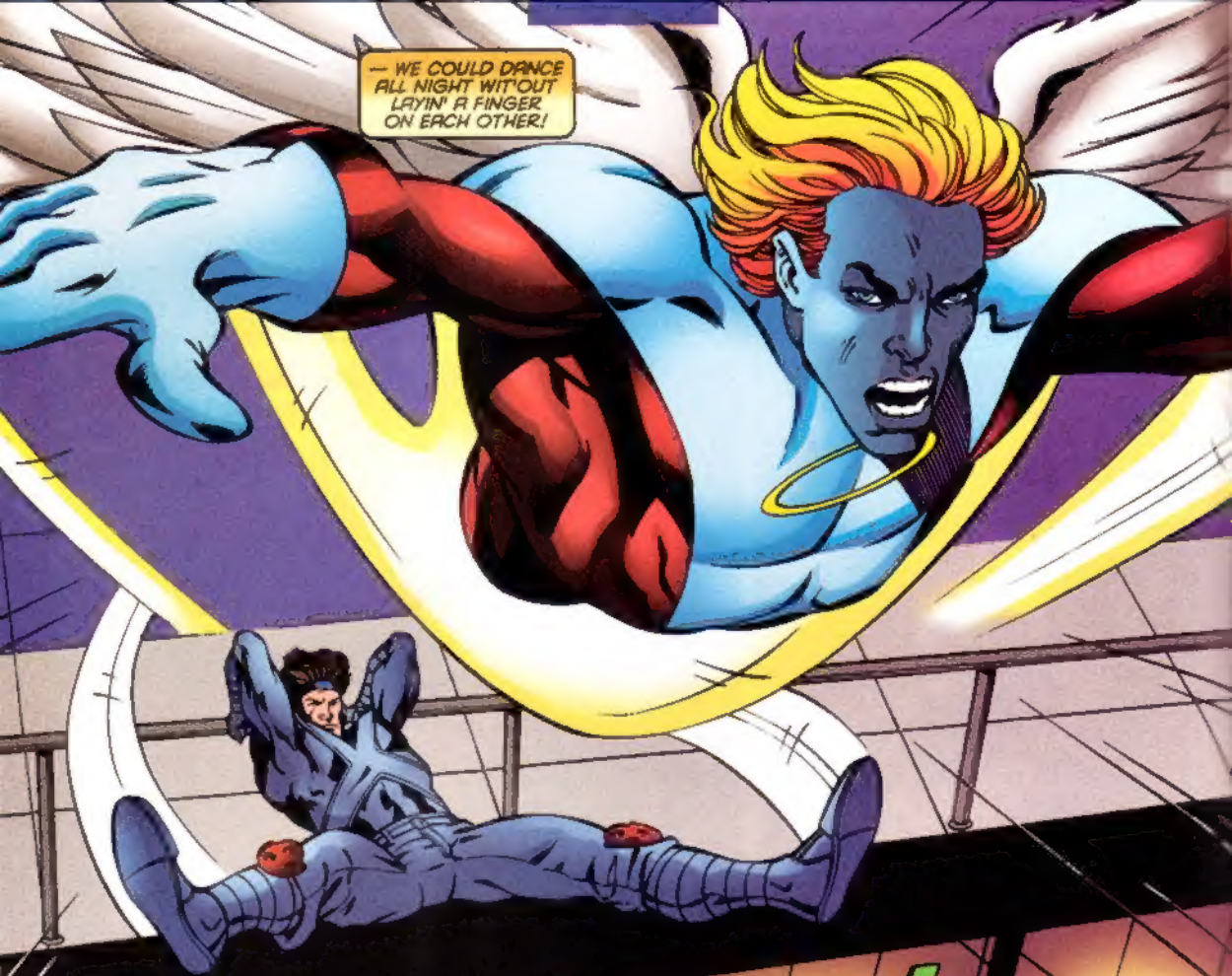
BUT WARREN'S BETTER'N THAT.

I CAN'T THINK OF THIS AS A REAL FIGHT. FEELS WEIRD.

MORE LIKE A TRAININ' SESSION IN TH' DANGER ROOM --

-- A BALLET 'TWEEN GUYS SO FAST --

— WE COULD DANCE
ALL NIGHT WIT'OUT
LAYIN' A FINGER
ON EACH OTHER!



AAH -- THE
BACKWASH
FROM HIS
WINGS...



... OKAY, IT'S
OFFICIAL NOW...
I'M OUT OF GAS.

RUN THROUGH
YOUR OPTIONS,
REMY --



UNE:
FALL.

DEUX: FLAP MY
ARMS REALLY,
REALLY FAST.



BAMF

TROIS: GET RESCUED
BY NIGHTCRAWLER,
YOUR TELEPORTIN'
MUTANT TEAMMATE!

THAT'S THE
ONE I LIKE
BEST.

HEY,
KURT.

HALLO,
REMY. HOW IS
IT GOING?

HAD AN
INTERESTIN'
NIGHT.

YOUR
MORNING
APPEARS TO
HAVE CONTINUED
THE TREND.

Yah.

SHOULD I
BE ON YOUR
SIDE OR
HISP

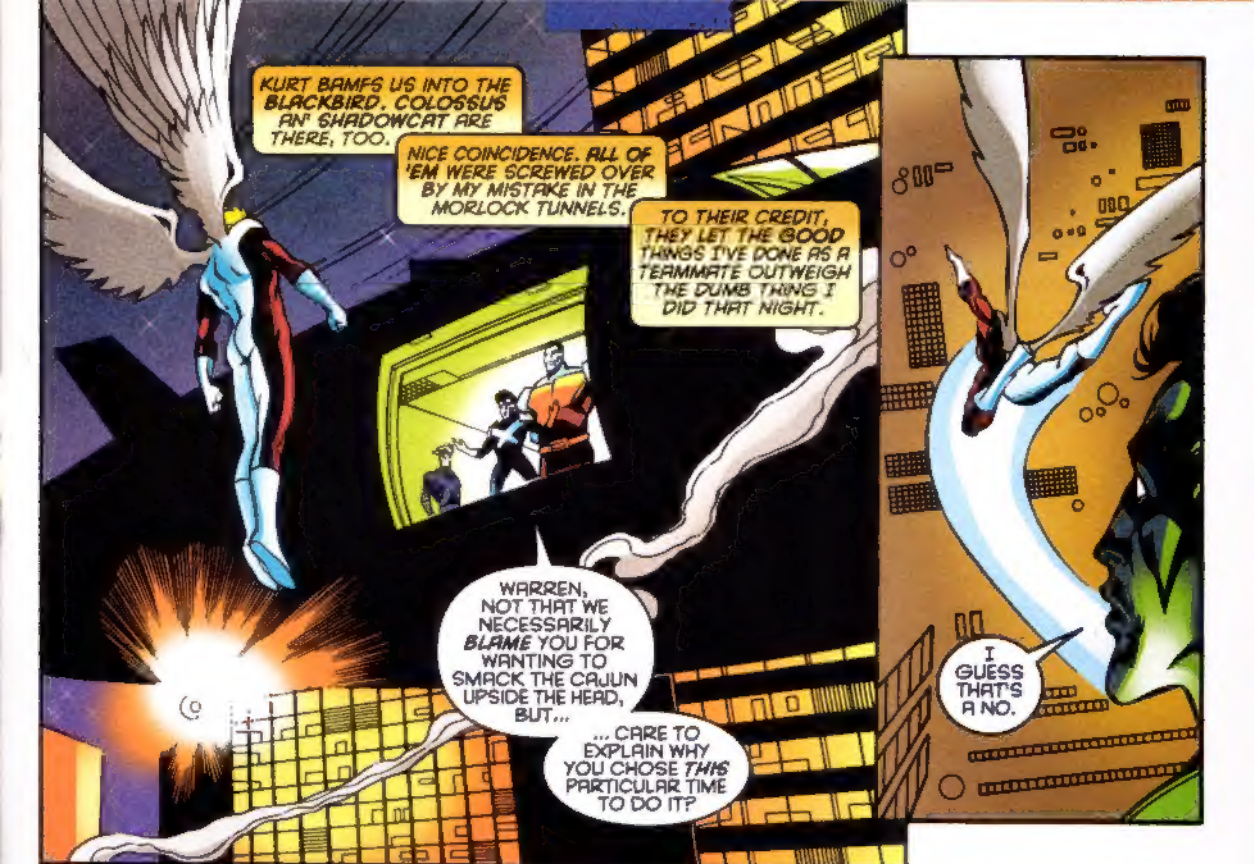
TH' PRUDENT
ANSWER WOULD
BE MINE, OF
COURSE!

BUT TH'
TRUTH IS, WHEN
I'M INVOLVED, WHO
CAN EVER REALLY
TELL?

--SIGH--

BAMF





KURT BAMFS US INTO THE
BLACKBIRD. COLOSSUS
AN' SHADOWCAT ARE
THERE, TOO.

NICE COINCIDENCE. ALL OF
'EM WERE SCREWED OVER
BY MY MISTAKE IN THE
MORLOCK TUNNELS.

TO THEIR CREDIT,
THEY LET THE GOOD
THINGS I'VE DONE AS A
TEAMMATE OUTWEIGH
THE DUMB THING I
DID THAT NIGHT.


WARREN,
NOT THAT WE
NECESSARILY
BLAME YOU FOR
WANTING TO
SMACK THE CAJUN
UPSIDE THE HEAD,
BUT...

... CARE TO
EXPLAIN WHY
YOU CHOSE THIS
PARTICULAR TIME
TO DO IT?


I
GUESS
THAT'S
A NO.



KITTY --
FOLLOW
HIM!



SORRY, FUZZY ELF...
BUT NO WAY THIS BIRD IS
GOING TO MANUEVER
BETWEEN BUILDINGS
LIKE ANGEL
DOES!



BUT EVEN
WITHOUT A VISUAL,
WE SHOULD BE ABLE
TO TRACK WARREN'S
MUTAGENIC
SIGNATURE!

LET 'IM
GO.

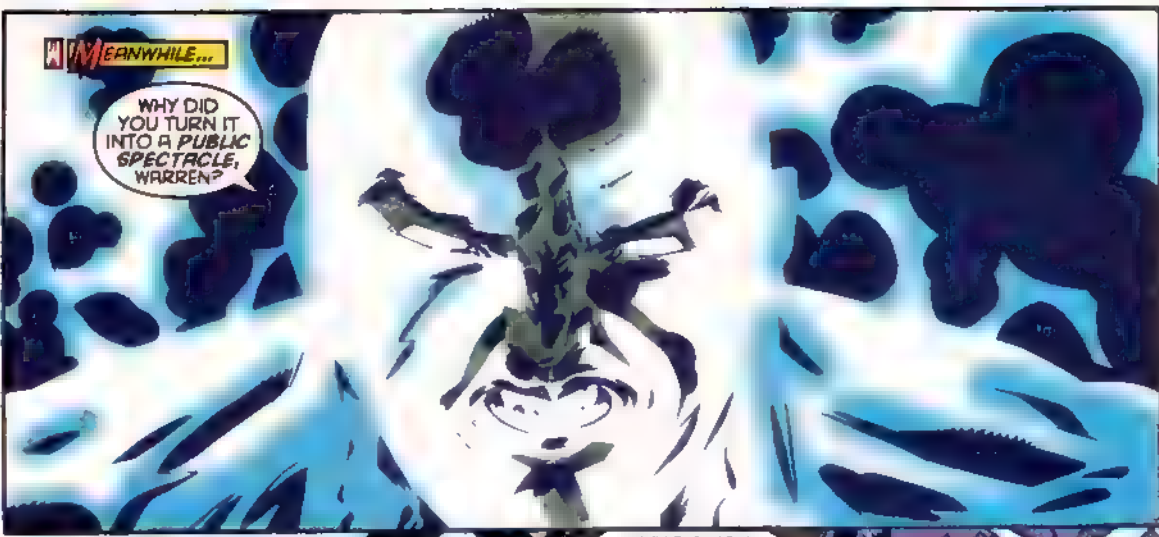
QUITE
FRANKLY...



... I
COULD
USE TH' REST...

MEANWHILE...

WHY DID YOU TURN IT INTO A PUBLIC SPECTACLE, WARREN?



IT'S KIND OF HARD NOT TO BE NOTICED IN THE MIDDLE OF MANHATTAN WHEN YOU'RE A GUY WHO FLIES, NEW SON.



WHY DO YOU THINK I CREATED A HIDEAWAY REMOVED FROM TIME AND SPACE?

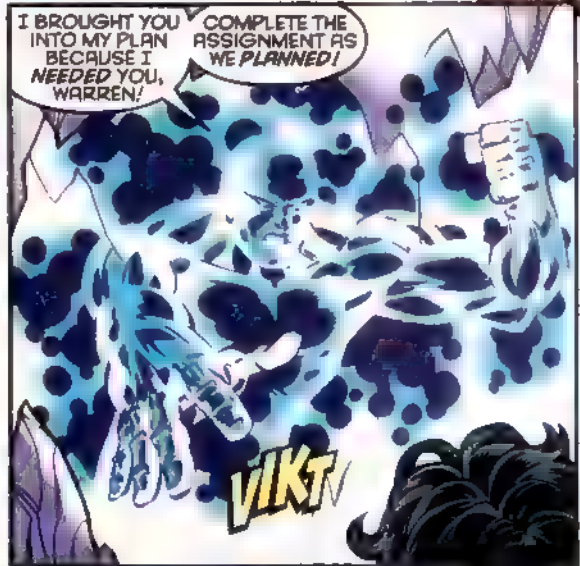
WHY DO YOU THINK I HAVE BEEN SO COVERT IN ALL OF MY DEALINGS?



I DO NOT WANT ATTENTION DRAWN TO MY ACTIVITIES!

I BROUGHT YOU INTO MY PLAN BECAUSE I NEEDED YOU, WARREN!

COMPLETE THE ASSIGNMENT AS WE PLANNED!



THAT DUDE IS GETTING ANGRIER BY THE MINUTE.

HE HAS GOOD REASON TO, GAVIN.

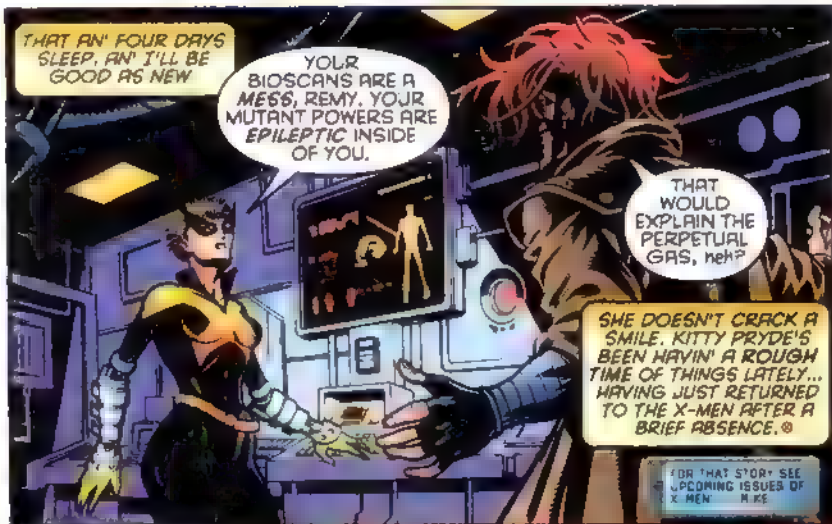
IF HIS PLAN DOESN'T WORK OUT JUST RIGHT...





"...IT COULD RESULT IN THE DESTRUCTION OF THE ENTIRE PLANET!"

WOKE UP AN HOUR LATER IN MY BED AT XAVIER'S MANSION IN WESTCHESTER. SHOWER. BOWL OF CAP'N CRUNCH.



THAT AN' FOUR DAYS SLEEP, AN' I'LL BE GOOD AS NEW

YOUR BIOSCANS ARE A MESS, REMY. YOUR MUTANT POWERS ARE EPILEPTIC INSIDE OF YOU.

THAT WOULD EXPLAIN THE PERPETUAL GAS, NEH?

SHE DOESN'T CRACK A SMILE. KITTY PRYDE'S BEEN HAVIN' A ROUGH TIME OF THINGS LATELY... HAVING JUST RETURNED TO THE X-MEN AFTER A BRIEF ABSENCE. ®

FOR THAT STORY SEE UPCOMING ISSUES OF X-MEN MAKE



YOU WANT TO COME CLEAN ON WHO TRIED KILLING YOU AND WHYP?

MAYBE THAT WOULD -- Oh, I DON'T KNOW -- HELP US HELP YOU FIND THEM AND STOP THEM?



OR MAYBE YOU JUS' WANNA HELP 'EM FINISH TH' JOB?

WELL, THAT WASN' CALLED FOR. PETULANCE COMES TOO NATURALLY FOR ME AROUND THESE GUYS. MY OWN GUILT

OKAY, OKAY -- I'M PRETTY SURE THE PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR TONIGHT'S FUN N' GAMES IS A GUY CALLS HIMSELF THE NEW SON.

HE'S THE ONE THA' RESCUED ME FROM THE ANTARCTIC...

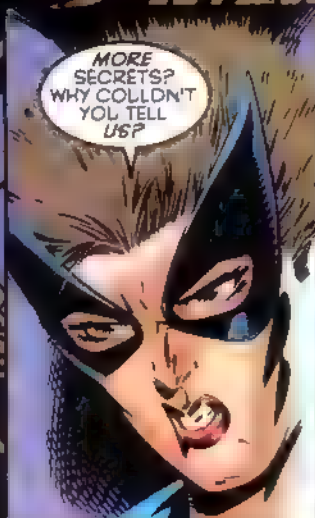
... HE SHOWED ME HE HAD A PLAN FOR HELPIN' MUTANTS AND HUMANS ALIKE --

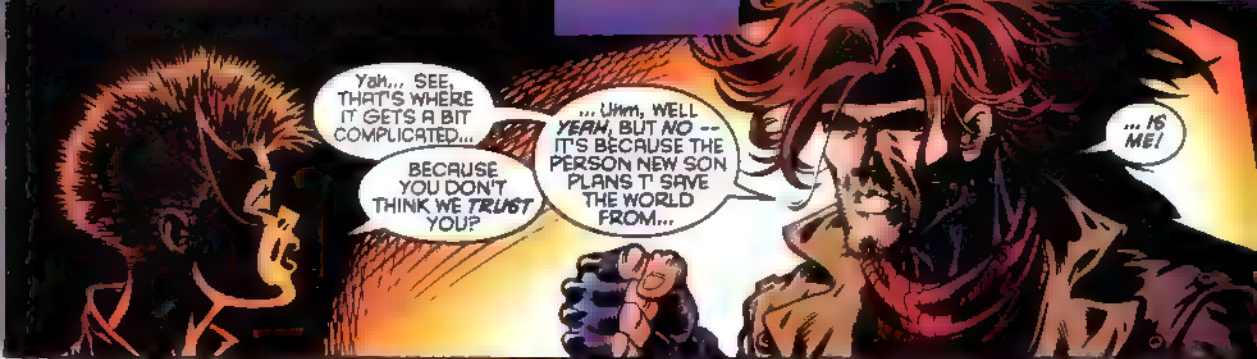
"-- WANTED T' SAVE THE WORLD, BUT HE DIDN' SAY FROM WHO --

"-- ASKED ME T' WORK FOR HIM, ONCE IN A WHILE, HELP HIM OBTAIN THINGS --

"-- PART BLACKMAIL, PART DEBT OF HONOR, PART BELIEVIN' HE REALLY DID HAVE GOOD INTENTIONS."

MORE SECRETS? WHY COULDNT YOU TELL US?



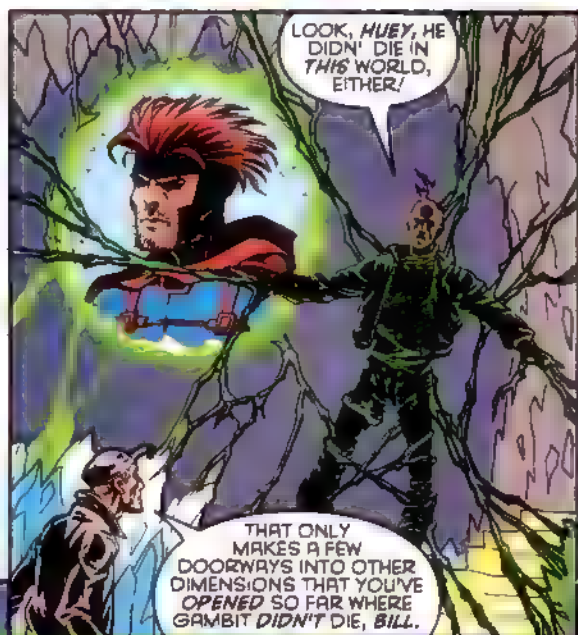


Yah... SEE,
THAT'S WHERE
IT GETS A BIT
COMPLICATED...

BECAUSE
YOU DON'T
THINK WE **TRUST**
YOU?

... UHM, WELL
YEAH, BUT NO --
IT'S BECAUSE THE
PERSON NEW SON
PLANS T' SAVE
THE WORLD
FROM...

... IS
ME!



LOOK, HUEY, HE
DIDN' DIE IN
THIS WORLD,
EITHER!

THAT ONLY
MAKES A FEW
DOORWAYS INTO OTHER
DIMENSIONS THAT YOU'VE
OPENED SO FAR WHERE
GAMBIT DIDN'T DIE, BILL.



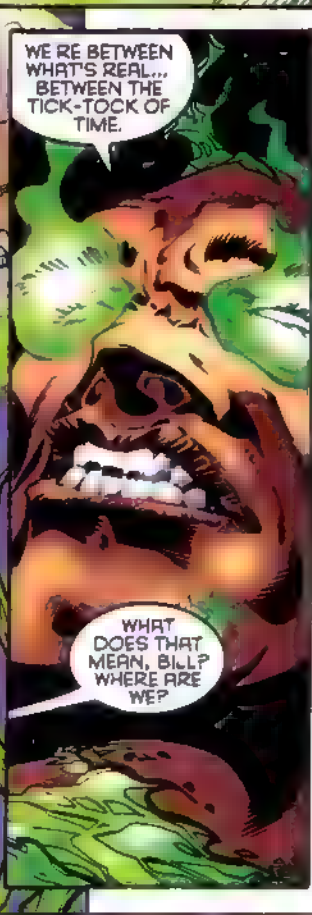
DIED IN
THIS NEXT ONE.
SAME AS THE
OTHERS, THAT
SPIKE THROUGH
HIM.



I KNOW
WHY NEW SON
BROUGHT YOU
HERE -- TO USE
YOUR MUTANT
POWERS LIKE A
PEEPHOLE --

-- BUT
WHAT I DON'T
GET IS WHY
OPENIN' UP THESE
PORTALS DON'T
HURT YOU NOW
LIKE IT DID
BACK HOME?

SAFER
HERE, HUEY.
DON'T FEEL THE **RAD**
BUZZ FROM THE
FISHERMAN.



WE'RE BETWEEN
WHAT'S REAL...
BETWEEN THE
TICK-TOCK OF
TIME.

WHAT
DOES THAT
MEAN, BILL?
WHERE ARE
WE?



NEW SON
BUILT THIS
PLACE BETWEEN
TIME AN' SPACE,
HUEY --

-- I DON'T
KNOW HOW ELSE
T' DESCRIBE
T --

-- WE'RE IN
THE MIDDLE OF AND
ON THE OUTSIDE OF
EVERYTHING THAT IS,
WAS, AN' WILL
BE -- ALL AT THE
SAME TIME

SOMEHOW
NEW SON CAN
FIND THE TINIEST
PECE OF TIME -- OF
MOTION REALLY --
SLIDE BETWEEN
IT --

-- AND
EXIST INSIDE
IT!

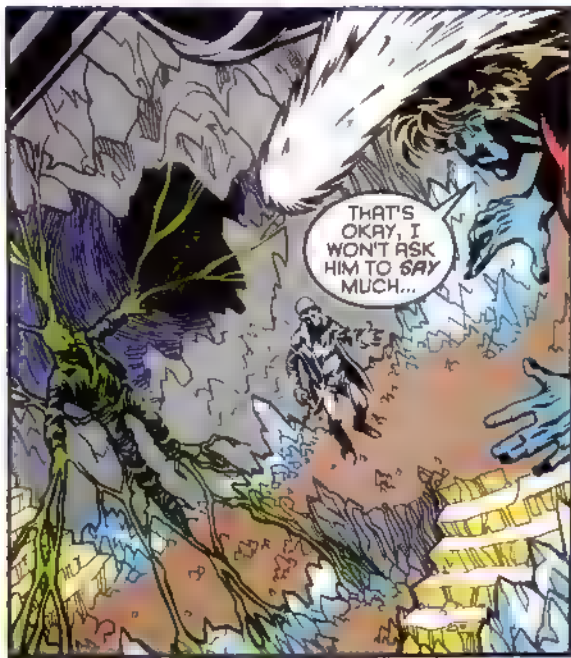
EVERYTHING
HERE IN THIS PLACE --
THIS *CRYSTAL CATHEDRAL*--
IS REALLY JUST A HOLLOWED
OUT, FROZEN MOMENT
IN TIME AND SPACE!



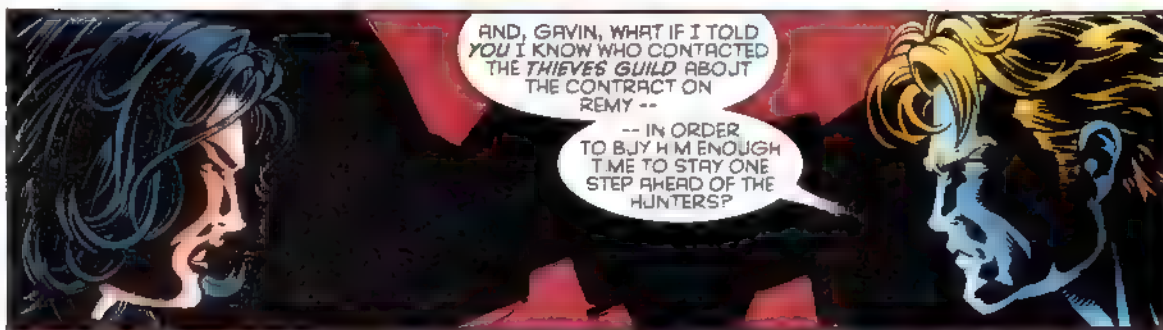
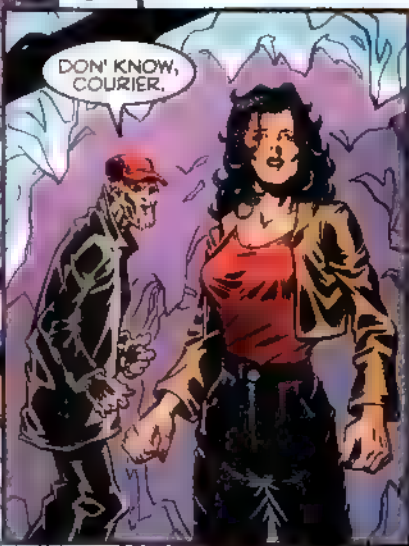
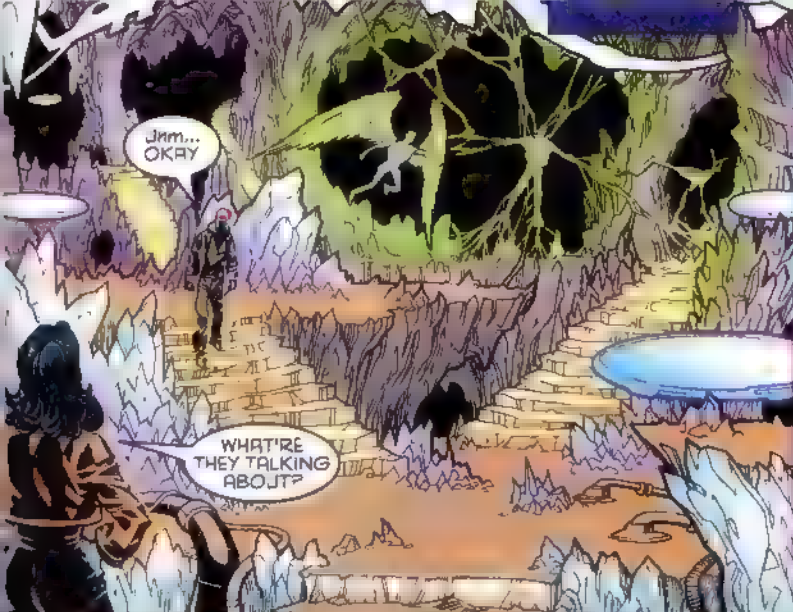
...oh.

HEY,
I NEED
TO SPEAK
WITH QUIET
BILL.

Uhm... HE
WON'T TALK
MUCH TO
ANYONE BUT
ME



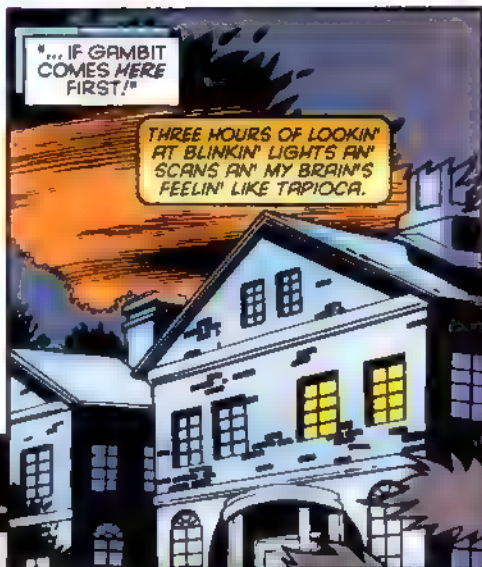
THAT'S
OKAY, I
WON'T ASK
HIM TO SAY
MUCH...





THE NEW SON EXPECTS YOU TO GO AFTER REMY AGAIN

IT WON'T MATTER MUCH.



"... IF GAMBIT COMES HERE FIRST!"

THREE HOURS OF LOOKIN' AT BLINKIN' LIGHTS AN' SCANS AN' MY BRAIN'S FEELIN' LIKE TAPIOCA.



THIS IS FLN

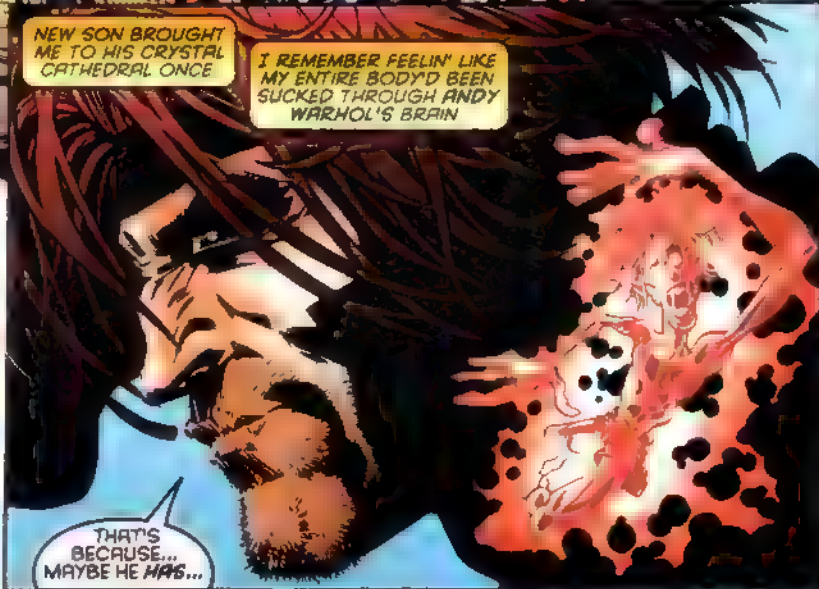
WHAT THIS IS, IS ABSURD! WE HAVE ALL-OUT SIGNATURES LOCKED ON SENSOR FILES -- WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO LOCATE ANGEL IN SECONDS!

PERHAPS HE IS BEYOND THE PLANET'S ATMOSPHERE?



NO, I PIGGY-BACKED ONTO A STARCORE SATELLITE ARRAY -- NO SIGN OF HIM SUPRA ORBITAL EITHER!

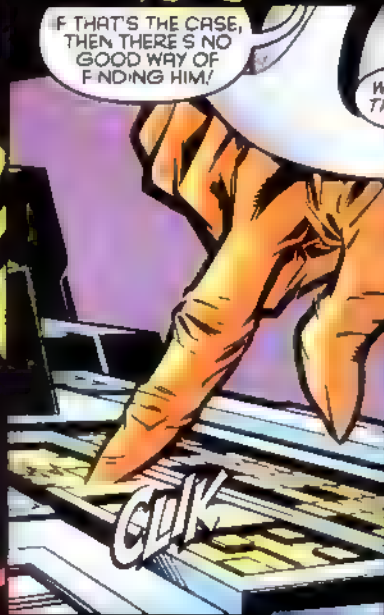
IT'S AS IF HE'S DISAPPEARED OFF THE FACE OF THE EARTH!



NEW SON BROUGHT ME TO HIS CRYSTAL CATHEDRAL ONCE

I REMEMBER FEELIN' LIKE MY ENTIRE BODY'D BEEN SUCKED THROUGH ANDY WARHOL'S BRAIN

THAT'S BECAUSE... MAYBE HE HAS...



IF THAT'S THE CASE,
THEN THERE'S NO
GOOD WAY OF
FINDING HIM!

WHAT
THE --



SOUND
AN LIGHT
SHOW'S REAL
FAMILIAR,
KITTY-
CAT...



GAMBIT -- YOU
WANT TO FIND
ANGE....

...JUST
WALK THROUGH
MY DOOR!

TH' X-MEN'RE
ROUNDED UP IN
THIRTY SECONDS.

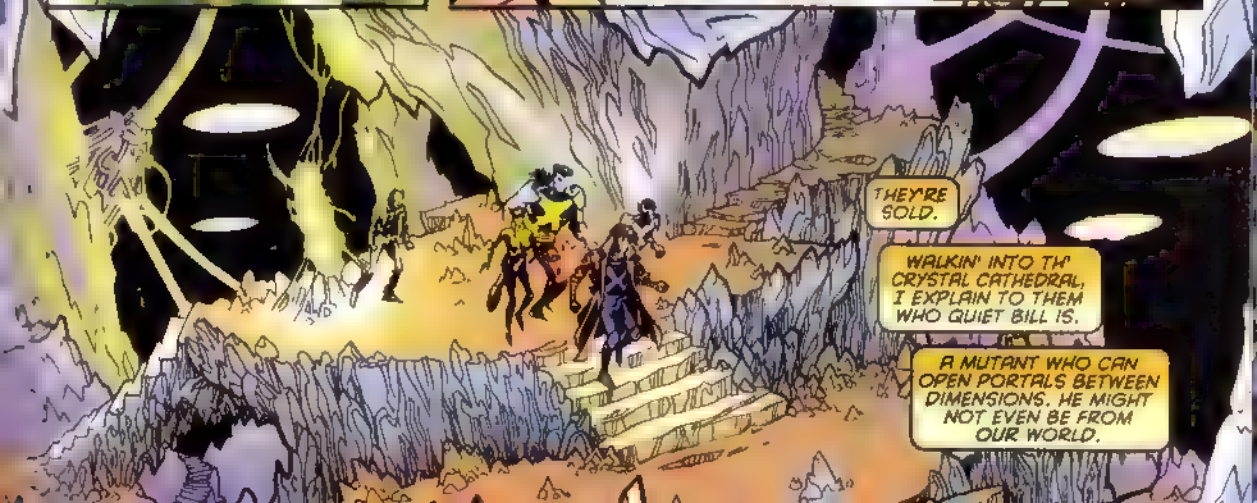
WE GOT RAPID
DEPLOYMENT DOWN
TO A SCIENCE



BRIEFIN' TAKES ALL OF
FIVE SECONDS. I SAY,
"WE GO THROUGH THAT
DOOR TO FIND WARREN."

KURT ASKS,
"AND WHAT
ELSE?"

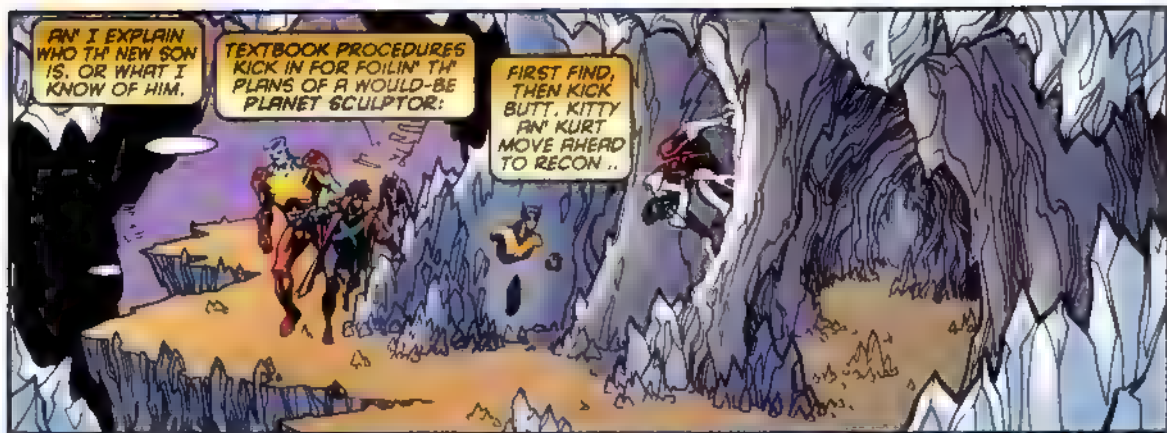
I SAY, "PROB'LY A
MAD SCIENTIST OUT T'
CONQUER TH' WORLD."



THEY'RE
SOLD.

WALKIN' INTO TH'
CRYSTAL CATHEDRAL,
I EXPLAIN TO THEM
WHO QUIET BILL IS.

A MUTANT WHO CAN
OPEN PORTALS BETWEEN
DIMENSIONS. HE MIGHT
NOT EVEN BE FROM
OUR WORLD.



AN' I EXPLAIN
WHO TH' NEW SON
IS, OR WHAT I
KNOW OF HIM.

TEXTBOOK PROCEDURES
KICK IN FOR FOILIN' TH'
PLANS OF A WOULD-BE
PLANET SCULPTOR.

FIRST FIND,
THEN KICK
BUTT. KITTY
AN' KURT
MOVE AHEAD
TO RECON..



AS I'M PHASING,
IT FEELS LIKE THE
WALLS ARE MOVING.
WHAT IS THIS
PLACE, REMY?

OR PERHAPS WE
SHOULD BE ASKING
WHERE AND WHEN
IS THIS PLACE?

DO YOU FEEL, AS
I DO, THAT YOUR
PERCEPTIONS --
YOUR SENSES --
ARE OFF?

ACHT, WE'LL
DISCUSS
IT LATER,
KATZCHEN..

THESE
GUYS HAVE
TO BE LAB
NERDS, THEY
MOVE SO
SPASTIC --

AAACH!



KITTY!

HOW
COULD YOU
HAVE BEEN
HURT WHILE
PHASING
THROUGH
THEM?



GOOD QUESTION,
KURT. ALL TH' TIMES
I BEEN HERE, I DIDN'
PAY MUCH ATTENTION
TO THE SHADOWTECHS.

GLASS

JUS' THOUGHT
THEY WERE THE
USUAL HENCHMEN
IN THE FUNNY
CAT-SHIRTS.



YOUR CARD
OPENED UP HIS
SUIT --
-- BUT
THERE IS
NOTHING
INSIDE!



THIS ONE
IS EMPTY,
TOO!



THIS WOULD
FALL UNDER
THE CATEGORY
OF, "Uhm..."



YOU
REALLY KNOW
NOTHING OF
THIS NEW SON,
DO YOU,
LEBEAL?

COLOSSUS HAS
FAIR REASON TO
BE MIFFED.

I'M WALKIN' 'EM
ALL INTO WHO
KNOWS WHAT.
BUT, HEY --

-- TH' X-MEN
HAVE DONE THAT
PLENTY OF
TIMES BEFORE...

I KNOW
HE HAS T' BE
STOPPED,
PETEY.



AND THAT IS ENOUGH
FOR ALL OF US TO
COME HERE --

-- THOUGH NOT
NEARLY ENOUGH
TO HELP US
ACCOMPLISH
THE TASK!



WHAT
DO WE DO
NEXT?

PERHAPS
WE SHOULD MAKE
WARREN OUR PR OR. TY
AND PUT NEW SON ASIDE
UNTIL WE KNOW
MORE?



WAIT --
WHAT ABOUT
HUEY?

WHOP



BILL'S FR END -- FROM
ONSLAUGHT ALLEY IN
MANHATTAN HE
CAME HERE W TH
YOU, BILL?

--SIGH--

OKAY,
CHANGE OF
PLANS. X-MEN
GO AFTER HUEY
BILL WILL GET
YOU OUT OF
HERE.

I'LL
GO AFTER
ANGEL. NO
ARGUMENTS
HUEY'S AN
INNOCENT IN
ALL TH S AN'
HE DESERVES
TH B GGEST
EFFORT



GO FIGURE,
THEY DON' ARGUE

HOW
DO YOU
EXPECT TO
GET OUT OF
HERE?

I
PLAN T' GIVE
NEW SON NO
CHOICE.

IF HE
DON'T OPEN
THE DOOR, I'LL
COLLAPSE TH
WHOLE P LACE
AROUND
H M!

I'M ALONE

SO TH' PLAN
GETS THROWN
OFF A BIT

-- WAS ALL
ABOUT DOIN'
JUS' THAT

WHILE NEW SON SENT
WAVE AFTER WAVE OF
PEOPLE T' KILL ME, HE
NEVER ONCE REALIZED
THAT ALL ALONG...

... I HAD HIM
IN MY TARGET
SIGHT!

HEY
HEY

STILL DOABLE, AN' IN
SOME WAYS, BETTER
SINCE TH' X-MEN
KNOW A LOT LESS
ABOUT WHAT'S GOIN'
ON THAN I DO.

DIDN' WANNA KEEP
'EM IN TH' DARK, BUT
THIS TIME I HAD TO.

AT LEAST 'TIL I CAN
FIGURE OUT WHAT
NEW SON IS REALLY
ABOUT.

AN' THIS WHOLE
CRAZY NIGHT --
THIS WHOLE
ASSASSINATION
GAME --

TIME T' FINISH
WHAT WE
STARTED?

WELL, WE'VE
COME THIS
FAR.

SO
LET'S DO IT,
THEN!

ALWAYS GET A FUZZY,
WARM FEELIN' WHEN I
KNOW I DOUBLE-
CROSSED SOMEONE!

ESPECIALLY
WHEN I
DID IT WITH
A FRIEND!



'COURSE, NINE
TIMES OUTTA TEN,
THAT FEELIN' ONLY
LASTS A FEW
SECONDS --



-- 'FORE TH' PERSON
GETTIN' DOUBLE-
CROSSED FIGURES
IT OUT!

JAKE!



REMY.

WARREN.

WHEN
DID THE TWO OF
YOU CONCOCT
THIS SCHEME?



AFTER
YOU FIRST
RECRUITED
ME.

THE MAN
I WAS WHEN
FONTANELLE FIRST
DREAMSCRAPED
ME HAS
CHANGED --



-- I LET GO
OF THE ANGER
TOWARDS GAMBIT
AND MY BITTERNESS
TOWARDS A LOT OF
THE THINGS THAT
HAD HAPPENED
TO ME.

I SEE.
MY OWN
FAULT...

... I
SHOULD'VE
LEARNED A
LONG TIME AGO
NOT TO TRUST
ANYONE...

... THE WAY
SO FEW PEOPLE
HAVE EVER BEEN
ABLE TO TRUST
ME...

... ESPECIALLY
XAVIER'S BROOD...
I THOUGHT... THIS
TIME... YOU MIGHT BE
DIFFERENT...

WOLVERINE
#348 347.
- MIKE

CAUGHT BETWEEN TWO
MOMENTS. BETWEEN TH'
USE OF KINETIC ENERGY.

NEW SON IS CONTROLLIN'
A SUSPENSION OF THAT
MOMENT.

AN' I HAVE TH'
ABILITY TO BIOKINETICALLY
CHARGE TH'
MOLECULAR
STRUCTURE OF
ANYTHIN' --

-- BASICALLY, TO CREATE A
FISSION DOMINO EFFECT
IN ANYTHIN' --

AAARRGH!

SLICE

REMY --
WHAT'RE YOU
DOING --?

-- INCLUDIN' THE SPACE
BETWEEN THE SPACES
THAT NEW SON IS FREEZIN'.

POSITIVE AN' NEGATIVE -- FORWARD
MOTION AN' LOCKED STAGIS --
SMACK INTO EACH OTHER --

-- AN' THEY CANCEL
EACH OTHER OUT!

OUCH.

NOW DO
YOU FINALLY
BELIEVE
ME?

YOU'RE THE
ONLY PERSON
WHO CAN BEAT NEW
SON BECAUSE HIS
POWERS ARE YOUR
POWERS --

-- JUST
USED WITH A LOT
MORE EXPERIENCE
AND A LOT LESS
MORALITY!



AH, SO YOU TOLD HIM WHO I AM, DID YOU, WARREN?

I GUESS I SHOULDN'T BE SURPRISED...
... NOR IN TELLING, DID I THINK HE WOULD BELIEVE YOU.

WELL, HE WAS TELLING THE TRUTH, REMY --



-- OUR POWERS ARE ALIKE --

-- BECAUSE WE ARE THE SAME PERSON!

I AM YOU!

CEPT I WOULDN'T BE CAUGHT DEAD IN AN OUTFIT LIKE THAT!



OY VEY.



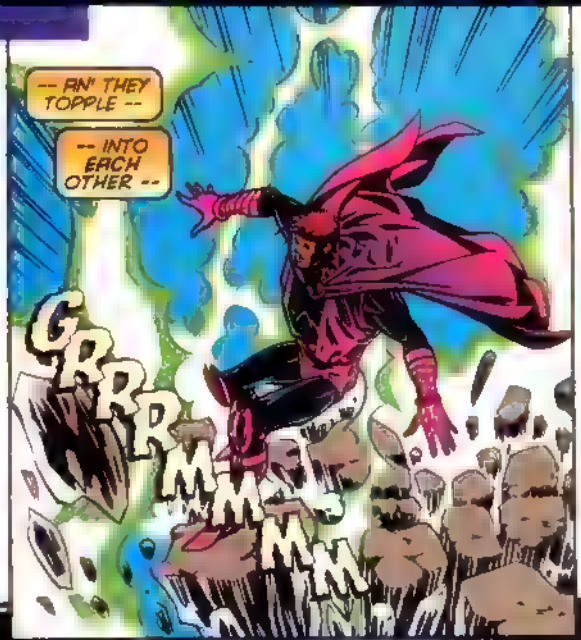
WHOEVER YOU ARE, NEW SON --
WHATEVER WORLD YOU'RE FROM --

YOU'RE NOT ME!



AN' THAT'S WHEN TH' OPPOSITE CHARGE I SNAKED INTO NEW SON'S FROZEN TIME TENDRILS --

-- WEAKENS TWO OF THE TOWERS HOLDIN' QUIET B...S VIEWING PORTALS --



-- AN' THEY TOPPLE --

-- INTO EACH OTHER --

GRRR
MM
MM
MM



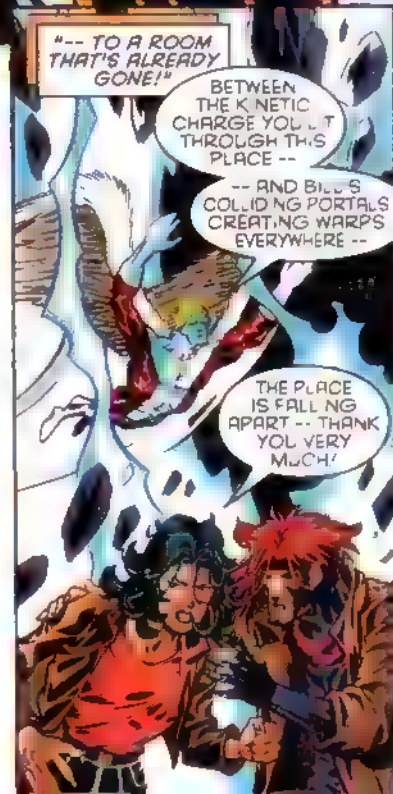
-- WHICH WOULD FALL UNDER TH' HEADIN' OF "ALL HELL BREAKIN' LOOSE!"

BILL -- WHAT'S GOING ON?

IT'S MOV'NG, HUEY -- THE SPACE THAT MAKES THE PLACE -- IS MOVING...

WE MUST FIND GAMBIT AND ANGEL!

TOO LATE -- CAN'T OPEN A DOORWAY --



"-- TO A ROOM THAT'S ALREADY GONE!"

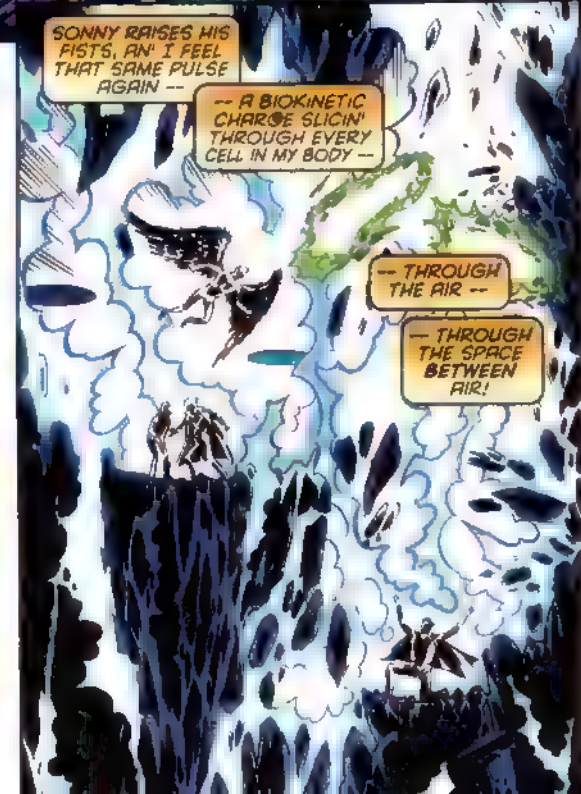
BETWEEN THE KINETIC CHARGE YOU'LT THROUGH THIS PLACE --

-- AND BILL'S COLLID'NG PORTALS CREATING WARPS EVERYWHERE --

THE PLACE IS FALL'NG APART -- THANK YOU VERY MUCH!



NO -- MONTHS OF PREPARATION CAN'T BE UNDONE SO EASILY!



SONNY RAISES HIS FISTS, AN' I FEEL THAT SAME PULSE AGAIN --

-- A BIOKINETIC CHARGE SLICIN' THROUGH EVERY CELL IN MY BODY --

-- THROUGH THE AIR --

-- THROUGH THE SPACE BETWEEN AIR!



HE TRIES -- I THINK --
TO USE HIS POWERS TO
STOP TIME AN' SPACE --

-- FREEZE THINGS
FROM FALLIN'
APART ANY FURTHER.

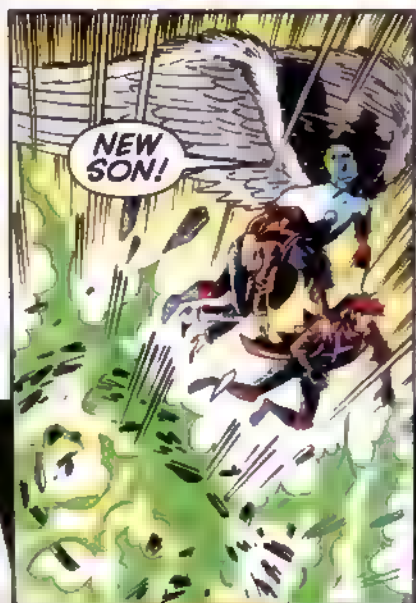
BUT BEFORE NEW SON
CAN LATCH ON TO
EVERY BIT OF FOLDIN'
TIME AN' SPACE --

-- ONE OF BILL'S
PORTALS --

-- A SMALL HOLE
BETWEEN HERE
AND THERE AND
EVERYWHERE --

NO!

-- FALLS
ON HIM!



**NEW
SON!**



POP



WHAT
ABOUT US,
REMY?

HOW DO
WE KNOW WHICH
DOORWAY IS THE
RIGHT ONE TO GET
BACK TO OUR
EARTH?

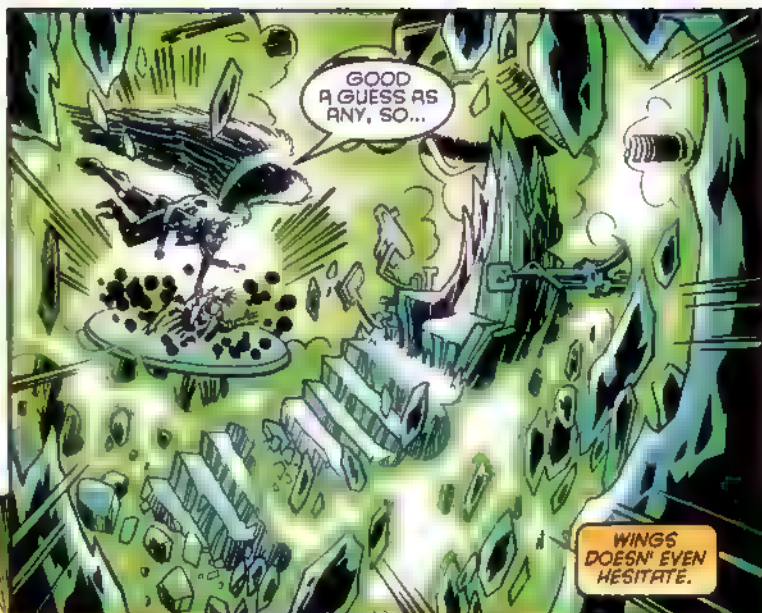
WHERE'S
MONTY HALL
WHEN YOU
NEED HIM?

AT THIS
POINT, GUYS, I
THINK I'D SETTLE
FOR AN ALTERNATE
EARTH WHERE
MONKEYS ARE
IN CHARGE!



THERE! THE ONE BY NEW SON'S THRONE WAS OUR DOORWAY --

-- SO WHEN HE SUMMONED SOMEONE, THEY'D APPEAR DIRECTLY IN FRONT OF HIM!

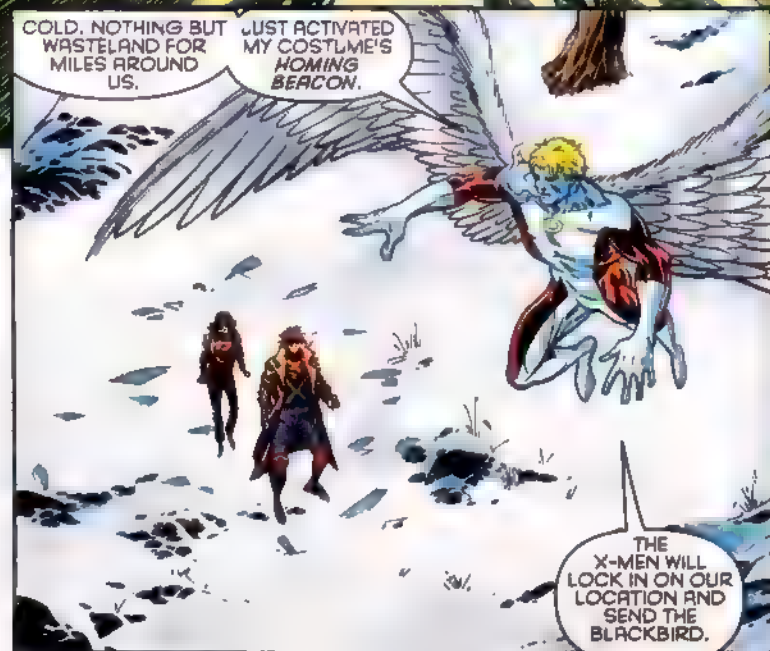


GOOD A GUESS AS ANY, SO...

WINGS DOESN' EVEN HESITATE.

AN' WE END UP...

SCHLOOORP



COLD. NOTHING BUT WASTELAND FOR MILES AROUND US.

JUST ACTIVATED MY COSTUME'S HOMING BEACON.

THE X-MEN WILL LOCK IN ON OUR LOCATION AND SEND THE BLACKBIRD.



THAT'S IT, THEN? AFTER ALL THAT, NEW SON LOST?

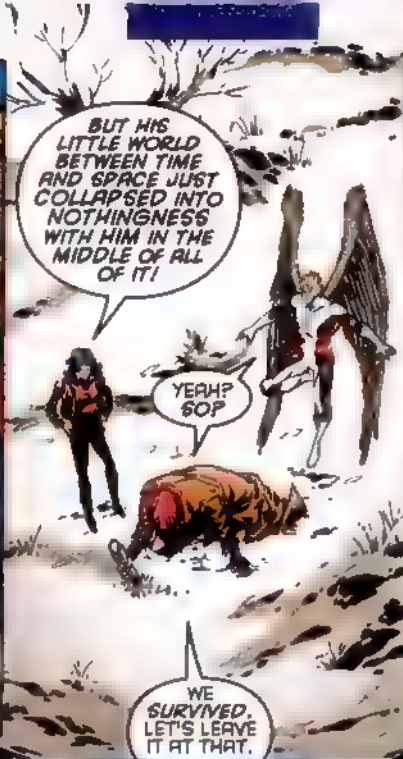
YOL GOTTA BE KIDDIN' ME.

WHAT?



NEW SON
AIN' DEAD,
JAKE.

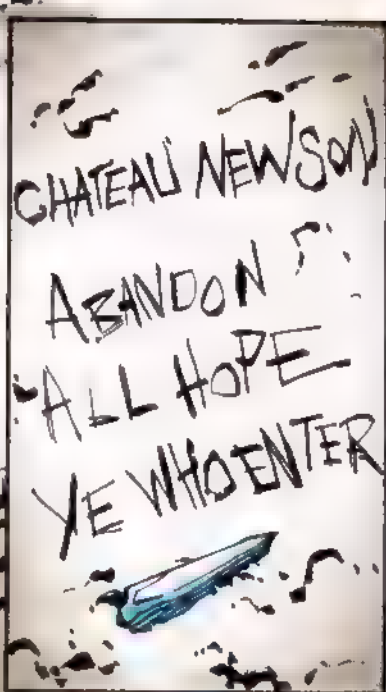
C MON..
DON'T BE
SILLY.



BUT HIS
LITTLE WORLD
BETWEEN TIME
AND SPACE JUST
COLLAPSED INTO
NOTHINGNESS
WITH HIM IN THE
MIDDLE OF ALL
OF IT!

YEAH?
SOP

WE
SURVIVED.
LET'S LEAVE
IT AT THAT.



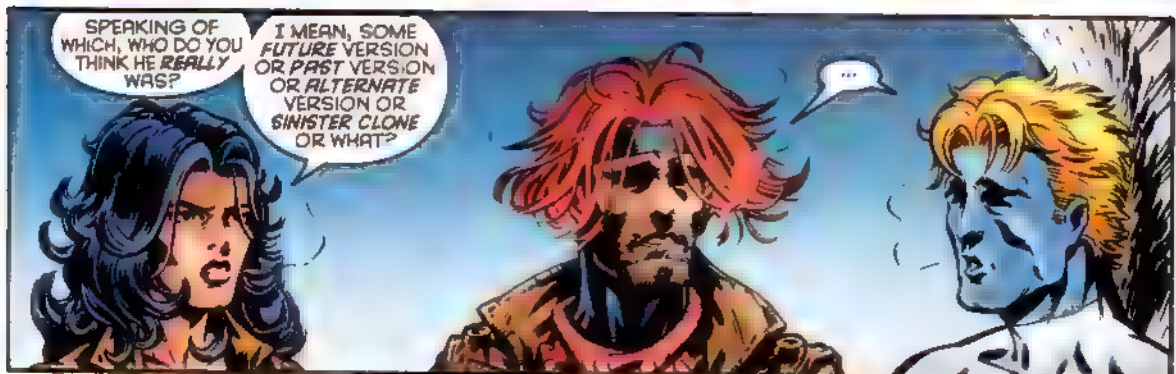
CHATEAU NEW SON
ABANDON
ALL HOPE
YE WHO ENTER



SO BASICALLY, WE GOT
A TRUCKLOAD MORE
QUEST ONS THAN
ANSWERS AND YOU
TWO ARE OKAY
WITH THAT?

STANDARD
OPERATIN'
PROCEDURE.

AT LEAST REMY HAS THE
TIME NOW TO DIG INTO
WHO NEW SON REALLY
WAS AND WHAT HE
REALLY WANTED.



SPEAKING OF
WHICH, WHO DO YOU
THINK HE REALLY
WAS?

I MEAN, SOME
FUTURE VERSION
OR PAST VERSION
OR ALTERNATE
VERSION OR
SINISTER CLONE
OR WHAT?



I WAS AFRAID
YOU'D SAY
THAT...

... SO
WHAT DO
WE DO
NEXT?

WE FIND SOME
WOOD AND START
A FIRE.

AN' LOOK FOR
MARSHMALLOWS.

END

GUILDS of NEW ORLEANS

THIEVES GUILD

Guild Members

A Remy Lebeau- Guild Patriarch and a team leader of the X-MEN. Gambit is able to charge inanimate objects with kinetic energy, causing them to explode on contact. Remy first appeared in *UNCANNY X-MEN* #266

B Jean Luc LeBeau- Foster father to Remy Lebeau and former Thieves Guild Patriarch. Recently, Jean Luc handed over his role as Patriarch to Remy. First appeared in the *GAMBIT LIMITED SERIES* (vol. 1) #2

C Theoren Marceaux- Harvest Master- Theoren is the older brother of Etienne Marceaux who was killed in a flashback in *GAMBIT* #6. Theoren first appeared in *GAMBIT* #17

D Genard Alouette- Harvest Disseminator- The person who sells off or gives away the bounty that does not pertain to the cause of the Old Kingdom. Genard first appeared in *GAMBIT* #7

E Minister of Torne- The librarian of the Thieves Guild archives who first appeared in *GAMBIT* #4.

F Minister of Hoard- Guild Accountant who first appeared in *GAMBIT* #4

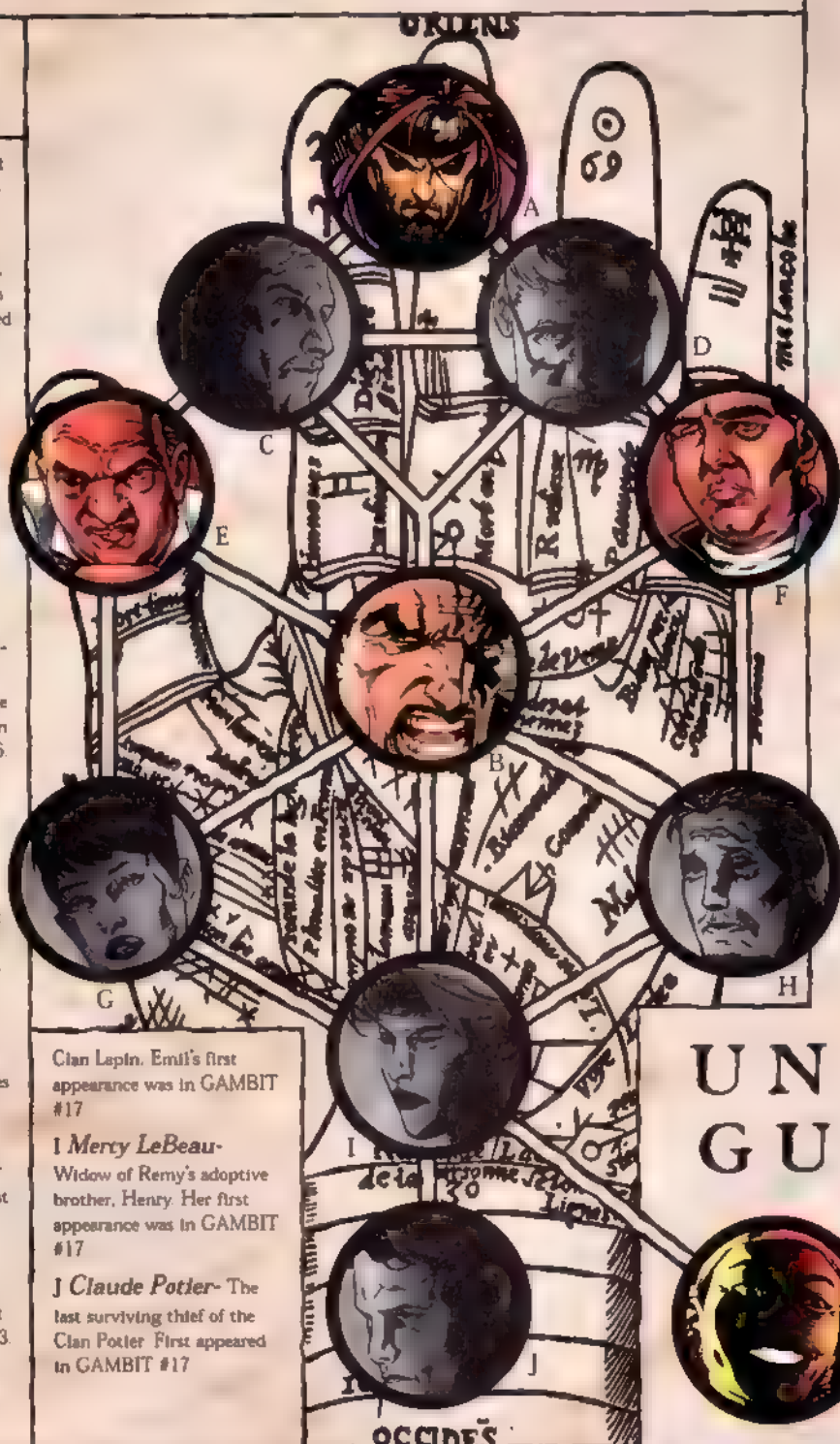
G Zoe Ishihara- Excommunicated from the Tokyo Thieves Guild. First appeared in *GAMBIT* #3

H Emil Lapin- Thief from the

Clan Lapin. Emil's first appearance was in *GAMBIT* #17

I Mercy LeBeau- Widow of Remy's adoptive brother, Henry. Her first appearance was in *GAMBIT* #17

J Claude Potier- The last surviving thief of the Clan Potier. First appeared in *GAMBIT* #17



ASSASSINS GUILD

Guild Members

A Bella Donna Boudreaux- Viceroy of the newly formed UNIFIED GUILD and estranged wife of Gambit. First appeared in *X-MEN* #8

B Marius Boudreaux- The former head of the Assassins Guild and late father of Bella Donna. Marius first appeared in the *GAMBIT LIMITED SERIES* (vol. 1) #2. He died of a mysterious heart attack in the *ROGUE LIMITED SERIES* #1

C Gris Gris- Has the ability to manipulate emotions, supposedly through his use of voodoo magics. First appeared in the *ROGUE LIMITED SERIES* #1

D Questa- Can simulate shape-shifting by manipulating another person's optic nerve impulses. First appeared in the *ROGUE LIMITED SERIES* #1

E Fifolet- Has the ability to render himself intangible. First appeared in *ROGUE LIMITED SERIES* #1

F Singer- Flyer and communications channeler who first appeared in *ROGUE LIMITED SERIES* #1

G Candra- mysterious X-Ternal responsible for giving many of the assassins their powers. First appeared in the *ROGUE LIMITED SERIES* #2



UNIFIED GUILDS

A Tante Mattie- Traiteur (Mystic Healer and Spiritual Guide) of both the Thieves Guild and Assassins Guild. First appeared in the *GAMBIT LIMITED SERIES* (vol. 1) #3.



PRETTY
SOPHISTICATED
SECURITY
INTERFACE.

THREE
GROUNDIN'
WIRES 'STEAD
OF ONE

FABIAN NICIEZA
writer

The
S
H
A
D
O
W

FATAL FLAW IN TH'
DESIGN — SPLICE
TH' GROUNDIN' LINES
TOGETHER AN' TH'
SYSTEM THINKS IT'S
STILL ON-LINE

THOMAS DERENICK
penciler

MOS' THIEVES
WOULDN' KNOW
DAT ABOUT IT.

BUT I WOULD,
SINCE I DESIGNED
DE SYSTEM
T'BEGIN WITH!

ERIC CANNON
inker

RICHARD S &
COMICRAFT'S TROY
letters

CREDIT WHERE
CREDIT'S DUE —
NEVER EXPECTED
MY MARK T' RELY
SOLELY ON
TECHNOLOGICAL
SECURITY
MEASURES

TOM SMITH
colorist
MIKE MARTS editor
BOB HARRAS
editor in chief



...THO' I MUST
ADMIT, DEMON
DOGS FROM HELL
MIGHT BE PUSHIN'
IT A BIT MUCH!

GRRRRR

BUT ROCHELLE AN'
JACQUES LEBEAU
DIDN' RAISE DEIR
SON JEAN LUC TO
BE ILL-PREPARED.



MILK
BONES.

NEVER BREAK INTO
SOMEONE'S HOUSE
WIT'OUT 'EM!

'COURSE, IT HELPS DAT
DEY'RE LACED WIT'
ENOUGH SEDATIVE T'
KNOCK OUT A BULL-
ELEPHANT.

HIS PLACE IS NICE.
SET HIMSELF UP
REAL COZY AFTER
BEIN' KICKED OUT
OF DE GUILD.

AN' NOW, I COME T'
HIM WIT' MY HAND
HELD OUT FOR HELP.

HOW'S HE GONNA
REACT? WHY DO I
CARE? HE'S IN
ABSOLUTELY NO
POSITION T' JUDGE
ANYONE!

PORTRAITS OF DE
WORLD'S GREATEST
SORCERERS
THROUGHOUT
THE CENTURIES

ALL OF 'EM
PERSONALLY
PAINTED BY
DE MAN WHO
LIVES HERE
TODAY.

MAGIC SPELL
WOVEN INTO DE
CORRIDOR -- I
SHOUL'D'VE
REALIZED --

-- AN' SPOKEN DE NAMES OF
DE SORCERERS ALOUD IN
ORDER T' AVOID DE TRAP...

SHLORRRRP

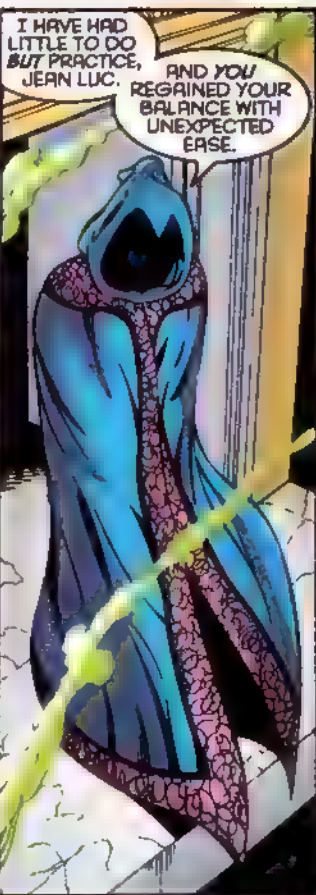
POP

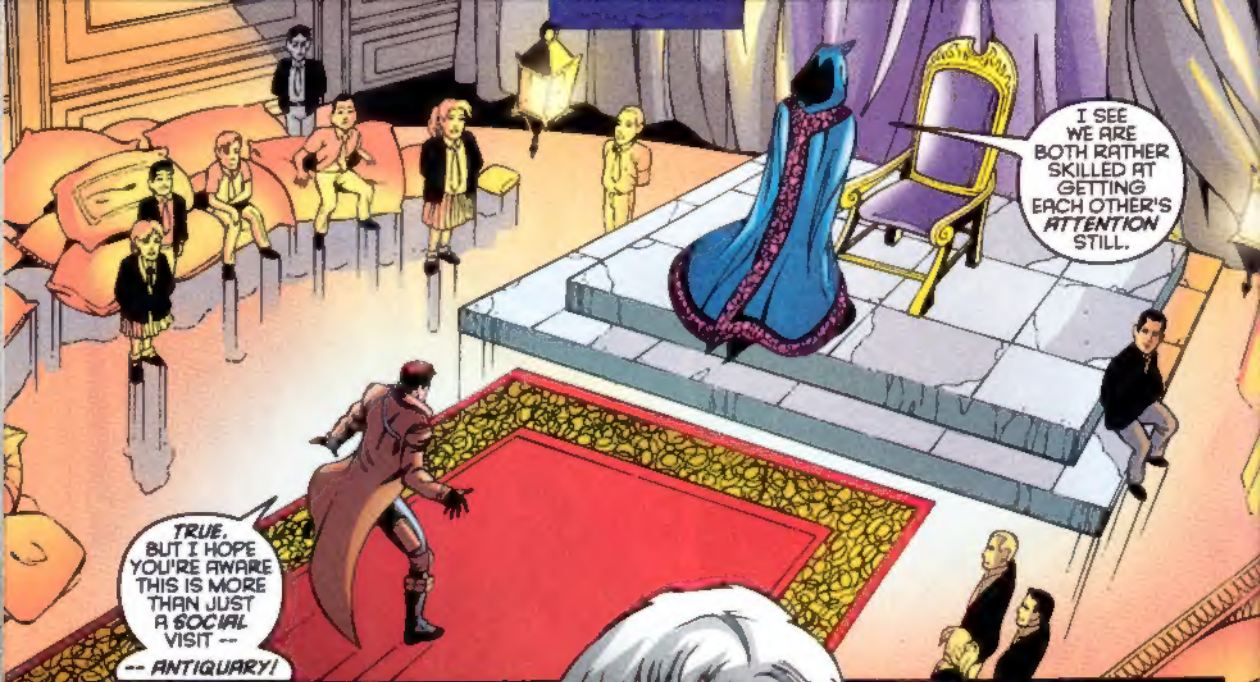
TRIGGERED
SOME KIND
OF FOLDIN'
SPELL --
TRAPPED
BETWEEN
REALITY --

-- AN' DE SPACE
THAT MAKES SPACE
BETWEEN SPACE!

ONLY WAY T' GET MY
BEARIN'S IS TO THINK
DIFF'RENT DEN UP AN'
DOWN AN' LEFT AN'
RIGHT...

... JUS' FOCUS ON
TURNIN' MY SENSES
INWARD -- LIKE
STEPHEN TAUGHT
ME YEARS AGO...





WE TALK FOR HOURS. WE PLAN.

HE ASKS ABOUT REMY, JUS' T' ANNOY ME, I GUESS.

I AVOID DE TOPIC. I HATE DE ANTIQUARY.

HATE DE MORAL CESSPOOL HE MAKES ME SWIM IN JUS' B'CAUSE I'M NEAR HIM. HATE AS MUCH DAT I DIVE IN AGAIN AN' AGAIN.

I LEAVE, AN' WALK PAST RED SQUARE. MOSCOW IN WINTER. HE REALLY DID CHOOSE T' EXILE HIMSELF.

GET BACK T' DE HOTEL, KNOWIN' A SHOWER WON'T WASH AWAY DE STINK OF MY GUILT...

... FOR LONGER THAN A FEW YEARS, JEAN LUC.

-- STEPHEN?

YOU SUCCESSFULLY BYPASSED THE SECURITY TO HIS HOUSE, BUT TRIPPED THE MYSTIC SAFEGUARDS I'D PLACED AROUND HIM.

YOU, OF ALL PEOPLE, SHOULD RESPECT WHY DR. STRANGE, THE SORCERER SUPREME, WOULD DEMAND SUCH... STRINGENT MEASURES.

WHEN YOU EXILED HIM, I ASSUMED HE WOULD BE AN OUTCAST...

HOW DID YOU KNOW I WAS HERE --

I DO, OLD FRIEND. BUT I ALSO HAVE LITTLE CHOICE. I NEED DE ANTIQUARY.

YOU KNOW HOW DIFFICULT A PATH YOU HAVE CHOSEN TO TREAD?

FROM THE SECOND I STEPPED DOWN AS PATRIARCH OF DE THIEVES GUILD.

BUT AS HARD AS IT IS T' ACCEPT I'M GON' DIE SOON --

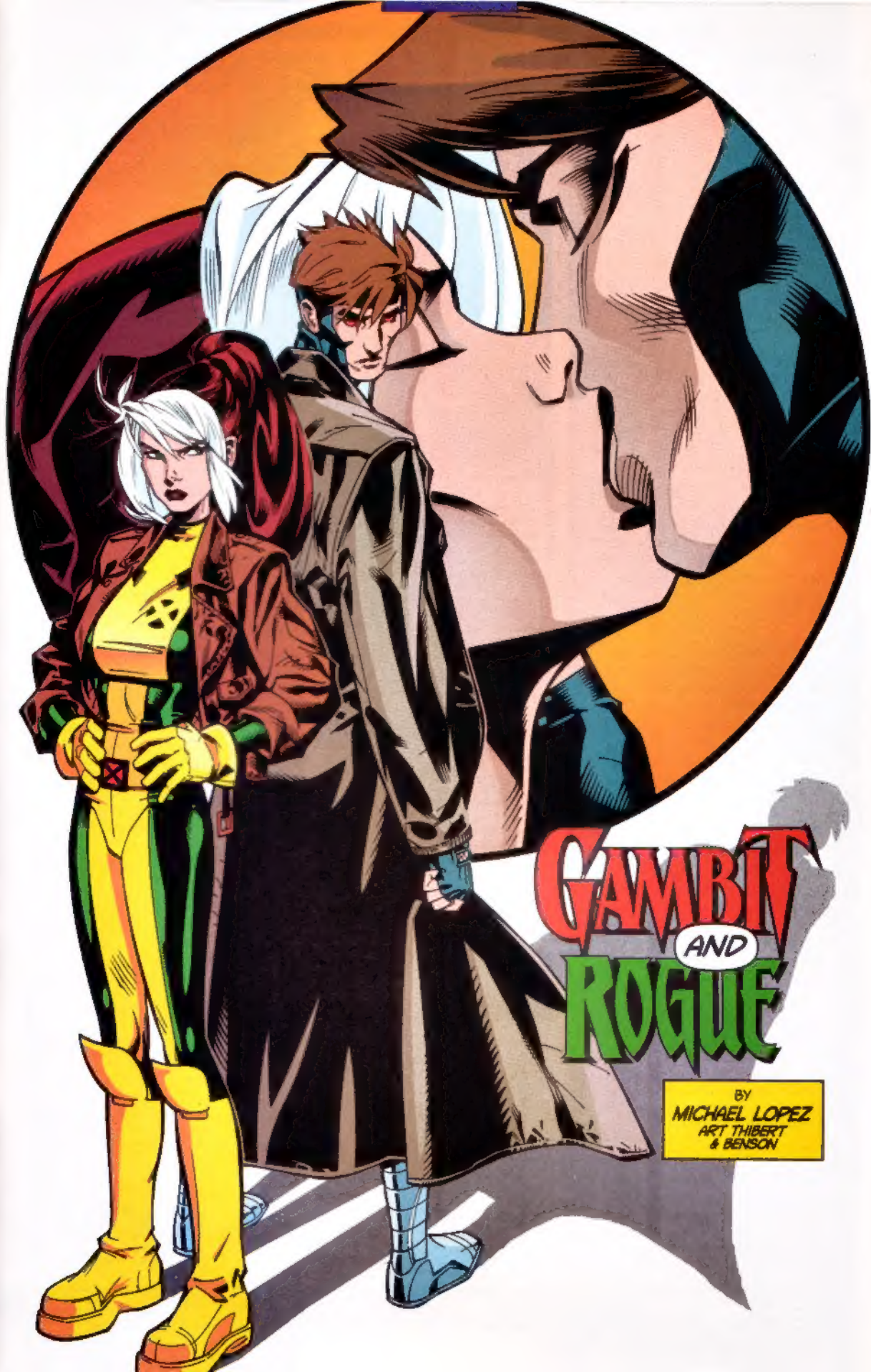
-- IT'S EVEN HARDER KNOWIN' MY SON'S LIFE MIGHT BE CHANGIN' FOREVER!

ONLY THE BEGINNING...

HOME SWEET HOME

BY
PABLO RAIMONDI





GAMBIT AND ROGUE

BY
MICHAEL LOPEZ
ART THIBERT
& BENSON